

VENTURA COUNTY
MARRT Program – (\$1,000,000 grant)

The MAART (Multi-Agency Referral and Recovery Team) project involves an expansion of the county's existing Forensic Services Program along two tracks, both within the context of the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) model and a re-instituted mental health court.

The first and smaller track expands the FSP to include intensive probation supervision for five severely mentally ill offenders who do not have a co-occurring substance abuse disorder. Participants in this track, all of whom will be on formal probation, receive individualized mental health services, medication, and 24-hour crisis services through a multi-disciplinary team approach, with an emphasis on supportive case management along with the capacity to assist with housing, transportation, disability and other entitlements.

The second and larger recovery track targets offenders with co-occurring disorders (mental illness and substance abuse) and provides – again, via a multi-disciplinary team approach – a number of evidence-based therapeutic and educational interventions that are part of the Integrated Dual Diagnosis Treatment model. The estimated 50 offenders who will participate in this track during the 18-month grant period have access to comprehensive, time unlimited services, individualized treatment driven by motivational interviewing, substance abuse counseling, and interventions designed to increase compliance with psychotropic medications, promote better overall physical health and foster family support. This track also involves intensive probation supervision and drug testing as part of the terms and conditions of probation.

Project Director: Captain Stephen Wade, Ventura County Sheriff's Department
(805) 654-2307; stephen.wade@ventura.org